

# The 2011 Young Architects Award

## Amy J. Slattery, AIA

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AIA Kansas City Board of Directors

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BNIM  
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Shepley Bulfinch  
Jane Chu, President and CEO  
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts  
Kent Spreckelmeyer, FAIA  
The University of Kansas  
School of Architecture, Design & Planning

October 07, 2010

To the Members of the YAF Award Selection Committee,

The Young Architects Forum plays a valuable role in the development of future leaders in our profession. Knowing the standard set by YAF, the Board of Directors and the members of AIA Kansas City are proud to present Amy Slattery, AIA as a candidate for a 2011 Young Architects Award. Her enthusiasm and leadership within our chapter sets a standard rarely met by members at any career phase.

Amy has devoted countless hours giving back to the Institute. At the national level she has been a valuable resource, giving her thoughtful and energetic presentations on diversity, mentorship and life-work balance at a number of national AIA conventions. At the Kansas City Chapter, Amy has taken a leadership role from the very beginning as an Associate Director on our Board. During her term she focused on mentorship and the un-met needs of her fellow emerging professionals by developing resources and processes that are still being utilized five years later by member firms throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.

Perhaps the best exhibition of Amy's dedication to both mentorship and diversity within the Chapter is when, seeing an entire segment of our membership being underserved, she became a Founding Director of Women in Design-Kansas City. This highly respected committee immediately took on the personality of Amy herself, energetically providing mentorship and advocacy for women working in a wide variety of design professions. Under Amy's leadership WiD-KC has grown from 25 members in 2005, to more than 500 members currently, and has received multiple AIA National Diversity Recognition Awards.

To this day, Amy continues to contribute to AIA Kansas City by eagerly saying 'yes' to anything asked of her...every committee, workshop, happy hour, tour, letter, phone call – always with great passion and attention to detail.

On the job, Amy has earned community-wide respect by taking the lead role in the administration and execution of the new Moshe Safdie-designed Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts, a role that has developed her skills beyond many of her peers. While many designers shy away from the rigor and exposure this complex task requires, Amy has tackled it with enthusiasm and success.

With all of her efforts above, Amy has never used a lack of time or energy as an excuse not to follow through with the architect's career path. She has earned LEED accreditation 2004 and an architectural license in Missouri in 2007.

In one of the easiest decisions of the year, the AIA Kansas City Board of Directors voted unanimously to award Amy as Emerging Professional of the Year in 2008 – and we think highly enough of Amy's leadership to have asked her to serve as one of only ten members of our Executive Director Selection Committee in 2010, the only non-firm owner invited.

The Kansas City Chapter of AIA is strong and healthy, in large part due to the efforts of Amy. We are proud to nominate Amy for a 2010 YAF of the Year Award. She is a model young architect, a leader in our profession and a valuable asset to the Kansas City design community. She is deserving of the great honor that comes with the Young Architects Award.

Sincerely,



Kevin Klinkenberg  
President, AIA Kansas City

# 02 | Biography



## **Amy J. Slattery AIA**

Amy is an Associate at BNIM and brings 9 years of experience in designs that enrich our local Kansas City Community. As a Project Architect for the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, she has been an integral leader of the team, organizing the construction document set and coordinating the consultant team and contractor communication during construction administration. During design development, she worked full time in the Boston office of the project designer, Moshe Safdie & Associates. With that relationship, she has gained the full trust of the project designers and is now a part-time site representative for the construction of the two performance halls, serving as the eyes and ears for the design team in Boston.

Amy is known for her energy, daily rigor, and ability to see and coordinate many issues concurrently. Through her involvement with the AIA at local, regional, and national levels, Amy's dedication to diversity and emerging professionals contributes to the relevancy and sustainability of the architectural profession. A recognized leader amongst her peers, Amy was named Emerging Professional of the Year by AIA Kansas City in 2008.

In 2005, Amy initiated Women in Design Kansas City (WiDKC) as an attempt to reach out to established professionals in the community, to learn from their success, to advance the work women are doing and to improve the way our lives intersect that work. WiDKC was one of ten programs selected for the first annual AIA National Diversity Recognition Program in 2009 and the only program to receive that recognition for the second time in 2010. WiDKC was a supporting contributor to the first Women's Leadership Summit in Chicago in 2009 and Amy is personally involved in the planning of both the 2010 and 2011 summits. Amy was asked to help establish the Women in Architecture and Design AIA Knowledge Net Community and was featured on the AIA homepage during the month of September 2010.

Amy is married to architect Sean Slattery at eldorado architects, and together they balance the demands of the profession while raising two young children. Architecture is intimately woven into her personal life and she has become a recognized voice regarding life/work balance. Many young architects call her their mentor, although informal, and she sets the precedent for what women can contribute to the profession while maintaining an expertly balanced life.

## **Education**

Bachelor of Architecture, University of Kansas, 2001  
Odile Decq summer internship, Paris, France, 2000  
KU Urban Design Studio, 2000-2001

## **Registrations**

Registered Architect, Missouri 2007  
LEED Accredited Professional 2004

## **Employment**

BNIM Kansas City, Missouri 2002-Present  
RTKL Dallas, Texas 2001-2002  
City of Kansas City, Missouri 1999-2000  
Central Business Corridor Transit Plan, Intern

## **Leadership**

AIA Women's Leadership Summit, Co-Chair, Kansas City 2011  
AIA Women's Leadership Development Summit, 2010  
AIA Central States Region EP Committee, 2008-2009  
AIA Kansas City  
Chapter Director Search Committee, 2010  
Pillars Leadership Program, 2008-2009  
Emerging Professionals Committee, 2008-2009  
Board Nominating Committee, 2006, 2009  
Associate Director, 2006  
Women in Design Kansas City, Founding Director  
Past Directors Advisory Committee, ongoing  
Scholarship Committee 2010  
Fundraising Gala Committee 2010  
Mentorship Committee 2008  
KC CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women)  
Director of Programs 2009-2010  
Programs Committee Co-Chair 2007-2008  
Calvary Lutheran Church, Kansas City Missouri  
Marketing Committee 2010  
Board of Youth, 2005-2006

# 02 | Biography

## Awards

CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) 20 under 40 Finalist, 2010  
AIA National Diversity Recognition Program, WiDKC, 2010  
AIA National Diversity Recognition Program, WiDKC, 2009  
AIA Kansas City Emerging Professional of the Year, 2008  
Fulbright Grant Recommended Candidate, 2001  
Outstanding Service Award, KU School of Architecture, 2001  
Student Senator for School of Architecture, 2000

## Teaching

Visiting Critic University of Kansas School of Architecture, Ongoing  
Site Tour, Kauffman Center, Iowa State University 2010  
Site Tour, Kauffman Center, Women in Design KU 2010  
Site Tour, Kauffman Center, Drury School of Architecture, 2010  
Site Tour, Kauffman Center, UMKC School of Performing Arts, 2010  
Guest Lecturer, "Project Delivery", University of Kansas 2010  
Guest Lecturer, "Registration", KC Design Studio, 2010  
Guest Lecturer, "IDP+ARE Bootcamp", University of Kansas 2008  
Guest Lecturer, "IDP+ARE Bootcamp", UMKC Pro Practice 2008  
Research Assistant, UMKC Dept of Architecture, 2006

## Presentations

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, ongoing  
presentations and tours on request  
"Kauffman Center and BIM" AIA Kansas City 2010  
"Five Steps to an IDP Program" AIA Kansas City 2009  
"IDP and the Central States Region" AIAS University of Kansas 2009  
"AIAKC+IDP" AIA Grassroots 2009  
"AIAKC+Mentorship" AIA Grassroots 2009  
"Family Friendly Policies" AIA Kansas City 2009  
"Family Friendly Policies and Life+Work Balance"  
AIA National Convention 2009  
"Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts"  
CSI Regional Conference: 2009  
"Supervisor Training: Mentorship+Delegation"  
AIA Kansas City 2009  
"IDP + ARE Bootcamp" AIA Kansas City 2009  
"IDP" AIAS Central States Quad Conference 2008  
Moderator, EP Panel Discussion  
AIA Central States Convention 2008

## Publications and Writing

AIA Knowledge Net Women in Architecture Member Community  
moderator and featured blogger  
AIA Kansas City New Member Guide 2010  
"Trends" aia.org AIA Knowledge Net Promotion 2010  
"Five Steps to an IDP Program" AIAKC EP Resource Book 2009  
AIA Kansas City Pillars Year in Review 2009  
Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Metrowire KC 2009  
Young Architects Forum Leadership Profile, AIA 2009  
Inaugural Living History Profile, Women in Design KC 2008

## Representative Projects

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas City, MO  
with Moshe Safdie & Associates  
NREL Parking Structure Design Competition, Golden, CO (unbuilt)  
Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City, MO (unbuilt)  
with Moshe Safdie & Associates  
Hospital Hill Parking Structure, Kansas City, MO  
Ft. Lauderdale Master Arts Plan, Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
Jackson County Courthouse Exterior Restoration, Kansas City, MO  
Jackson County Courthouse Interior Signage, Kansas City, MO  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Addition, Kansas City, MO  
with Stephen Holl & Associates  
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Signage, Kansas City, MO  
  
\*Brookfield Square Redevelopment Strategy, Brookfield Wisconsin  
\*Southwest Downtown Urban Renewal Area Masterplan, Colorado  
Springs, Colorado  
\*Chang Ying Residential Community Masterplan, Beijing, China  
\*while at RTKL

“As a direct result of Amy’s leadership and strategic guidance, she has insured our organization consistently provides some of the most innovative and relevant programming to the commercial real estate community in Kansas City. Amy has, in a relatively short period of time, exhibited the organizational skills and leadership ability that will insure her personal success and the betterment of any endeavor with which she is associated.”

- Diana L. Ennis 2010 President  
Kansas City Chapter Commercial Real Estate Women  
Stewart Title Company

# 03 | Impact



## Leadership

Some believe that leaders are born. Others argue that leadership is learned. Amy's ability to lead boldly while remaining a humble student of her trade stands as a testament to the dynamics of her personality. She is a vigilant advocate and mentor for young professionals, minorities and peers. She seeks to take on new challenges that improve her industry. She does not flinch in the face of conflict (... or contractors).

She listens. She acts. She inspires.

In her nine years of professional practice, Amy has impacted her industry to a degree that most never achieve in an entire career. Recognized as a strong young leader by anyone who knows her—or knows of her—she has emerged as an engaging voice in the design arena, focusing on diversity, mentorship and professional development.

Perhaps her most significant leadership contribution to date is her role as the Founding Director of Women in Design Kansas City, an award-winning organization that began as a meeting of 25 female design professionals in 2005 and today boasts more than 500 participating members. This organization provides support, mentorship and advocacy to empower the ever-growing number of diverse females in the design industry.

A close second in her list of valuable contributions is Amy's involvement in the AIA's Emerging Professionals Committee, both locally and regionally. In this role, she has helped to reinvigorate the IDP/ARE mentorship opportunities that serve as valuable guides and resources for young design interns endeavoring to navigate the daunting landscape of development programs and exams.

Not to be eclipsed, Amy's long list of other critical engagements have resulted in a stronger, more knowledgeable, more diverse design industry. She has lent her voice, time, and boundless energy in a broad range of capacities to the AIA, the Kansas City Commercial Real Estate Women organization, and her firm. She has served as presenter, instructor, and critic for the architecture programs at regional universities. She has authored several written pieces for industry resources and local publications. And she has presented on a number of topics for various trade organizations, including a presentation at the 2009 National AIA Convention, where her topic was Family Friendly Policies.

*“Timing is often the reason initiatives are successful. In Amy Slattery's case she seems to set the pace and create opportunities. Amy Slattery's role in raising the role of women in design and construction has taken multiple paths—AIA, WID, CREW, mentoring students and other roles. She has skillfully leveraged her interests and passions together at the right time in history—her impact on our profession being much more than the sum of the parts.”*

- Steve McDowell FAIA | President  
BNIM

## 03 | Impact



### Practice

Within her firm, Amy is a powerhouse. Early in her career, she joined BNIM's Performing Arts Center studio, a team charged with the oversight of a massive new building project in the heart of downtown Kansas City. Readily volunteering to serve an extended stint in the Boston offices of project designer Moshe Safdie & Associates, her penchant for leadership and attention to detail quite organically positioned her as a natural liaison between the design firm, her colleagues at BNIM, and the contractor and consultant team. In the following years, Amy has grown with the project—first as an intern, then as a senior project architect, project management and now as the selected site representative inside the performance halls. The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts project is a perfect microcosm of Amy's emergence in the practice of architecture, representing her ability to learn, grow and lead with passion, competency and impressive speed.

The Kauffman Center, though certainly time-consuming, has not been Amy's only outlet for professional practice in recent years. She has played a key role in the design and development of a host of other significant projects, including the highly-regarded Bloch Building Addition to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the new home for the Kansas City Ballet and a recent design competition for a net-zero parking facility for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colorado.

### Community

Hand-in-hand with her leadership efforts, Amy's community outreach touches thousands of people each year. Her contributions include tireless hours coordinating functions that bring together her personal, professional and spiritual communities; volunteering at local universities to introduce future design professionals to the realities of working in the field and to help hone their developing skills; counseling peers, colleagues and friends on the importance (and very real existence) of a healthy life/work balance; promoting the spiritual youths within her church community; and, of course, reaching out to fellow women to increase the power of their collective and individual voices.

*“If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time.”*

- Marion Wright Edelman,  
attorney and civil rights activist

# 04.1 | Women in Design and the AIA

The professional resources that support the work of AIA members

Trends



Amy Slattery on the AIA Homepage Banner promoting AIA Knowledge Net, September 2010

## Why Women in Design

Women in Design Kansas City was founded as an effort to promote the value of a widened perspective gained from the inclusion of women, racial minorities, and individuals with diverse cultural and economic backgrounds. This inclusion improves the work we do as designers and the role of architecture and design in our community.

## Mission

Women in Design Kansas City is a community of women involved in architecture and the design professions who have come together for mentorship, support, and advocacy for women in design. We provide opportunities for working with the community to educate, enhance, explore and celebrate the historic and present contributions of women in our professions through community outreach, mentorship, programs and research.

## How WiDKC Started

After organizing an informal conversation and presentation at BNIM Architects on the history of women designers in Kansas City, Amy Slattery was encouraged to take the work beyond the firm. AIA Kansas City Executive Director Dawn Kirkwood recommended a list of local women to contact, and on April 27th, 2005, twenty-five women met to discuss the creation of an organization. Business meetings alternated with networking happy hours and gradually the conversation grew. Over the first five years, the network has grown to over 500.

*Women in Design Kansas City was the only repeat recipient of the first two AIA Diversity Recognition Awards in 2009 and 2010.*

## A Leading Organization in the AIA

The success of Women in Design Kansas City has stimulated discussions across the country about the logistics and start up of similar organizations. Through the connections Amy made at AIA National Conventions in Boston and San Francisco, WiD KC was a supporting contributor to the first Women's Leadership Summit in Chicago in 2009. Amy is teamed up with Past Director Laura Pastine to co-chair the follow up Women's Leadership Summit to be held in Kansas City in September 2011. In order to continue a dialogue between established practitioners and emerging leader support, Amy and Laura were also integral to the planning of the first Women's Leadership Development Summit in New York in September 2010.

By way of these national conversations, Amy was asked to help establish the Women in Architecture and Design AIA Knowledge Net Community and was featured on the AIA homepage during the month of September 2010.

## Building New Leaders

Amy's success in connecting Women in Design Kansas City regionally and nationally has provided opportunities for more emerging female architects to have a voice at around the country. At the 2009 AIA Grassroots Conference, Past WiDKC mentorship chair Lindsay Piant presented the WiDKC mentorship program in a panel discussion organized by the Young Architects Forum. Lindsay is now establishing the diversity dialogue in her new location in Orlando Florida. At the 2009 AIA CSRC in Iowa, Past Director Erin Pias presented a workshop entitled "A Sustainable Profession: Diversity, Balance and Community by Women in Design Kansas City." The WiDKC Mentorship Program was also featured in the Spring 2009 edition of the National Associates Committee newsletter "Associate News."



The 2009 Women in Design Kansas City Monster Drawing Rally raised over \$7000 in one night for charity.

### **WiD KC Events**

Women in Design Kansas City (WiDKC) provides opportunities for our membership to elevate their experience as design practitioners. Monthly meetings provide networking opportunities and our series of programs and events have included discussions on architecture and the arts, the experiences of established women architects, and pertinent issues of the profession including sustainability, collaboration with project teams, and prefabricated construction. WiDKC has become a place for women in various design professions to meet others in their fields and to learn about ourselves through each other

The initial goals to promote leadership, camaraderie, mentorship, public awareness and educational opportunities have remained a focus as the organization has grown to create events of importance to the larger design community in Kansas City.

Founded on the concept of an open dialogue, Women in Design Kansas City has remained flexible and accommodating to the new ideas and contributions of its members. A recent success of this mindset was the first Monster Drawing Rally held in March of 2009. Through the initiative of newer members, this community service event raised over \$7,000 in one evening for a local women's shelter.

### **Members**

Although grounded in architecture, WiDKC has broadened its reach, including members from all associated professions involved in the design of the built environment; including landscape, graphics, industrial design, interiors, and construction. Because members wear many hats and calendars are oftentimes full, WiDKC requires no membership fees or commitment. A variety of events are provided at different times during the work day to encourage participants to attend events that work best for them.

### **Communications**

The WiDKC website ([www.widkc.org](http://www.widkc.org)) has served as an example to many women in architecture organizations around the country. The group maintains an 300 email database and contacts in the design community of over 700.

### **Historic Kansas City Trolley Tour**

The historic Kansas City Trolley Tour showcase the talents of the early beginnings of female architects during the period of pre-World War I, as they fought to become educated, awarded, and built practitioners. In all, the tour offers up more than 35 buildings on a journey through the heart of Kansas City. The appeal of the Trolley Tour has spread to to the larger Kansas City community, and WiDKC has been asked to give it to many groups throughout the city.



WiDKC featured in the KC Star



Initial organizational discussion



Supporting professional relationships



Annual "We Care" Event



Kauffman Center site tour



Sally Ride Festival

## Mentorship

The WiDKC mentorship program operates on three levels - in the local area schools, universities, and professional mentoring within the organization. The Day of Shadowing is an annual event which gives area high school students an opportunity to visit area architecture, interior design, graphic design firms. This year over 100 young women will visit area design firms through the program.

In 2008, a group of students at the University of Kansas established Women in Design KU with the guidance of WiDKC member Professor Marie-Alice LHeureux. Amy maintains a connection with the group by participating in portfolio workshops, giving site tours of the Kauffman Center, and mentoring the women as they search for internships in the region.

## New Initiatives

Building on past successes is key to the growth of Women in Design. In 2010, Amy Slattery and the Past Directors Committee initiated the Women Principals Group for owners come together to support, educate and promote themselves within the greater design community. The Past Directors also established the first Women in Design Kansas City scholarship and will be hosting its first annual gala in 2011 celebrating the achievements of young designers in area universities.

“Women in Design-Kansas City has touched the lives of hundreds of women in Kansas City and across the country. WiDKC changed my view of the profession of architecture and design. My involvement in the organization gave me the tools to contribute to my firm, my community, while maintaining a level of personal balance. Amy’s talents go beyond her vision for such a profound organization and as a Young Architect, Amy Slattery has already left a legacy to the Kansas City design community and across the country.”

- Lindsey Piant, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP  
DLR Group

## 04.2 | Emerging Professionals



Amy Slattery established the first annual AIAKC Emerging Professionals Happy Hour as a successful outreach to young architects in Kansas City

### An Emerging Leader

In 2006, as Associate Director on the AIA Kansas City Board, Amy Slattery initiated the AIAKC Emerging Professionals Happy Hour which is now an annual event celebrating the achievements of local emerging professionals. It also engages new and non-members and teaches them about what AIA, AIAKC, and YAF have to offer. After a hiatus the year her son was born, Amy was invited to attend the 2007 Central States Regional Conference in Tulsa and joined the AIA Central States Emerging Professionals Committee as a licensed representative from Missouri. This committee has been innovative in establishing a dialogue between components and firms across the region.

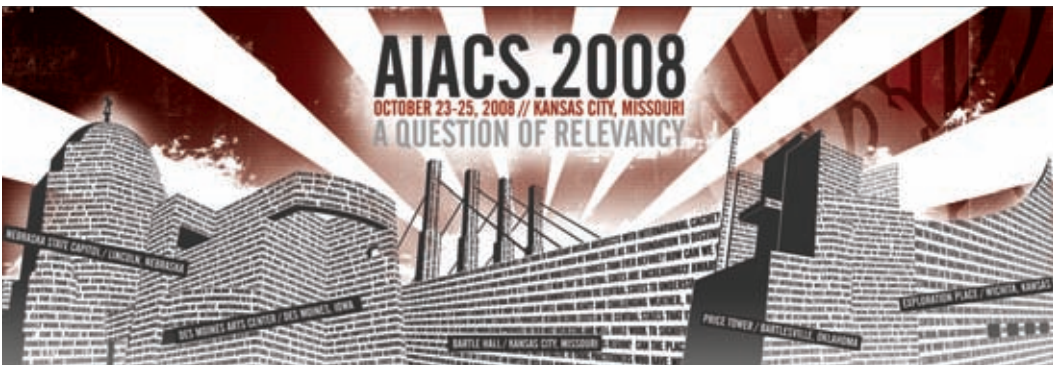
In 2008, Amy and others from Kansas City who attended the regional conference re-invigorated the AIA Kansas City Emerging Professionals Committee by merging with an already existing IDP/ARE task force. This committee refreshed support programs for firms and interns, including a lighter take on the IDP Bootcamp, the Emerging Professionals Resource Book: "Five Steps to an IDP Program", and well-attended mentorship conversations. The AIAKC EPC continues the connection to area universities through IDP presentations.

Amy was able to spread the ideas developed in Kansas City through presentations at the 2008 Central States Regional Conference in Kansas City, the 2008 AIAS Central States Quad Conference and the 2009 AIA Grassroots – in both IDP and Mentorship panel discussions. Because of her outgoing efforts, Amy was selected as Emerging Professional of the Year by AIA Kansas City in 2008, having been nominated by both BNIM principal Casey Cassias and by her husband (and fellow architect) Sean Slattery.

As a participant in the 2009 class of the award-winning AIA Kansas City Pillars Leadership Development Program, Amy pushed the group to learn to lead by establishing professional relationships with some of the region's most influential decision makers. She led the graphics and formatting for the year in review publication for the group.

*“She is the consummate young architect - she has been instrumental in providing leadership to our Institute at the local, regional and national levels. Amy is smart, confident and tenacious; she is a valued mentor and mentee in the Kansas City architectural community; and she is a talented architect. I am proud to share a profession with her, and I wholeheartedly recommend her for the 2011 AIA Young Architect’s Award.”*

- Richard Wetzel, AIA, LEED AP  
(former) President, AIA Kansas City  
Partner, Centric Projects



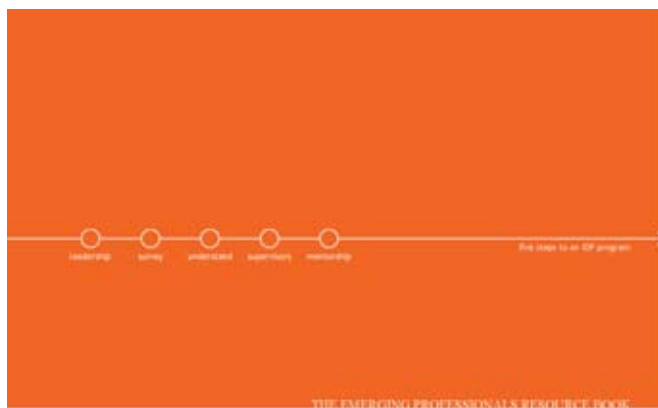
Amy Slattery moderated the EP Panel discussion at the AIA CSR Convention in 2008



Speed Mentoring at the AIA CSR Convention



AIACK YAF Events



Amy edited the AIACK EP Resource Book, "Five Steps to an IDP Program"



The annual EP Happy Hour is a continued success.

## The AIA Kansas City Emerging Professionals Committee

The AIACK EPC is a task force with the goal of providing support from beginning to end of the licensure process. Goals include: Build camaraderie around the licensure process; Support awareness of licensure process amongst new grads and tenured senior associates; Promote teaching and learning by a pooling of people and resources; and Provide recognition for firms and individuals who succeed in promoting mentorship and licensure status.

### RESOURCES AIACK EPC PROVIDES

- ARE Study Materials for check-out
- Monthly ARE Study Sessions
- A Mentorship Network
- Opportunities for Involvement and Professional Growth
- Annual Emerging Professionals networking events
- Periodic IDP Bootcamp and Training lunch and learns

### FIVE STEPS TO AN IN-HOUSE IDP PROGRAM

1. Step Up: Identify Your Leaders
2. Survey Says: Define What You Need
3. Get in the Know: Understand the Process
4. Super Who?: Educate Your Supervisors
5. Mentorship: Redefine Apprenticeship

## The Central States Region Emerging Professionals Committee

“Amy and I were part of a small group that started as a task force for the Central States to develop an Emerging Professionals group. Amy brought ideas to the table long with her “go get ‘em” attitude to get things done. She and I served on the committee for another year during the key time to get the momentum going for this committee. We started a Webpage, Newsletter of events, and conducted the first ever Emerging Professionals Summit. The Central States Region Emerging Professionals Committee is now the “benchmark” that other regions refer to for Emerging Professionals.”

- Katie M. Harms AIA, OPN Architects  
AIA National Associates Executive Committee  
Central States Region Associate Director

## 04.3 | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts



The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts will be one of the most significant cultural facilities in the Midwest. Designed by Moshe Safdie and Associates, with BNIM as joint architect of record, this facility will contribute to the livability of the downtown Kansas City area and add greatly to the redevelopment efforts of the urban core. The geometrically complex structure features an innovative design with an intricate cable glass structure that will draw visitors to this premier venue for the performing arts. The center will provide two world-class performance halls for the resident organizations of the Kansas City Ballet, the Lyric Opera, and the Kansas City Symphony and contains a 1,800-seat proscenium theater and a 1,600-seat concert hall.

The Kauffman Center will have a transformative effect on the Kansas City urban core, economy and strong arts community. What informs the plan at its core is the desire to create a pedestrian-friendly environment woven into the city, connecting the recent reinvestment in the Kansas City's Central Business District with the organic development of the Crossroads Arts District. BNIM is an integral partner in executing Moshe Safdie's vision of the center as sculpture that defines the cultural legacy of Kansas City. In every great city there is an iconic place that helps the city define itself as a community where culture and art matters. People will come to the city to visit this place. Visitors coming into the Kauffman Center will know it is a special building that will transform the way we hear the art, to hear and experience it in a more profound way.

The Kauffman Center is inseparable from Amy Slattery's career. Over the course of the project, she has grown to be a leader within the team and will continue to be intimately involved through the grand opening in September of 2011.



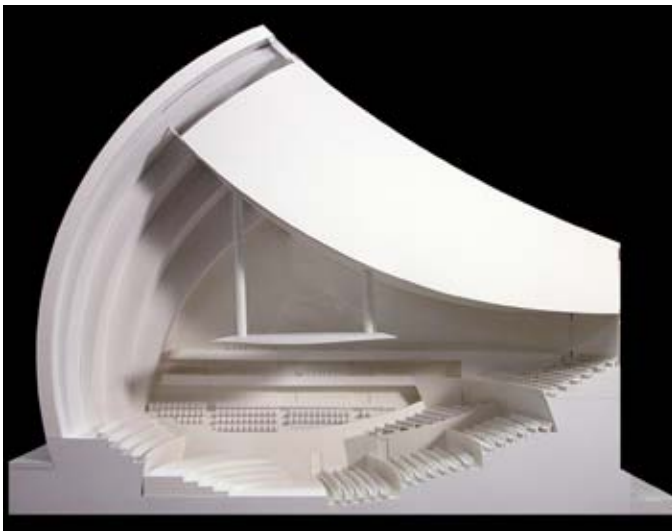


Over the course of her six-year dedication to the project, Amy has also had two children, as seen here, pregnant with her second in July of 2009.

“It was nearly ten years ago that BNIM began working with Moshe Safdie on a new performing arts center for Kansas City. Before we entered into this relationship with Moshe both firms agreed that the team would work in a highly collaborative manner throughout the process. Amy Slattery was a bright young intern architect who eagerly stepped up to the challenge of moving to Boston and working in Moshe’s office during the earliest stages of design. The feedback from our collaborators was positive. Amy became an immediate contributor and advocate for advancing the design including bringing her intimate knowledge of the fabric of the neighborhood, exceptional construction partners like Zahner and the local climate conditions in shaping the design that is under construction today. Today she remains a valued collaborator by the entire design team, contractor and client. ”

- Steve McDowell FAIA | President  
BNIM





*“Amy’s involvement in the Kauffman Center has been significant. This project is a marathon with unbelievable detail. Her attention to quality and diligence have proven invaluable for helping to keep the project on track.”*

- Kyle McQuiston | Vice President  
JE Dunn Construction

*“During the course of my involvement in the construction phase of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, it has been a pleasure to work with Amy Slattery. I have found her to have a very high attention to detail. The team effort required to pull a project as complex as this one takes a great team effort from the contractor, design team and owner. Amy has been a valuable member of the team. I look forward to working with her on future projects.”*

-Tom Coulter | Senior Project Manager  
Development & Project Management Services MC Realty Group

## 04.4 | Design Work



### **The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Addition** Kansas City, Missouri

BNIM was selected to serve as Architect of Record with Design Architect Steven Holl of New York City on a major expansion to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. As Architect of Record, BNIM was responsible for all aspects of design support, project management and construction administration.

Amy contributed at the end of construction documents and through the beginning of construction administration in coordinating and documenting the design.



### **The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Signage** Kansas City, Missouri

BNIM was selected to design all environmental graphics in for the renowned Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Renovation and Expansion. The overall campus signage program included guidelines for wayfinding, donor and regulatory signage for the Museum's existing building, the Bloch Building addition, the Kansas City Sculpture Garden and the museum's various sub-organizations, such as the Ford Learning Center.

Amy refined concepts in design development and worked in close collaboration with the owner and Steven Holl's office to execute an integrated signage package for the building.



### **NREL South Table Mountain Ingress/Egress & Traffic Capacity Upgrades** Golden, Colorado

BNIM, OZ Architecture and JE Dunn partnered on this design-build design competition for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The project design includes a parking structure and site entrance and a small site entrance building, which serves as the gateway to the campus for both employees and visitors. The result of a highly collaborative design process resulted in a zero energy building design.

Amy coordinated the integrated design team effort, contributed to the design inception, and wrote the proposal for the competition submission.

## 04.4 | Design Work



### **The Kansas City Ballet School** Kansas City Missouri

BNIM was the associate architect collaborating with lead architect Moshe Safdie and Associates in the design of a new ballet school for the Kansas City Ballet. Although unbuilt, the simple design was an exquisite concept. The two-story facility included eight practice studios and one practice/performance studio, all linked on the ground floor by an entry lobby/spine. The modest and minimal façade incorporated floor to ceiling glazing engaging the street and allowing the public to visually interact with dancers in the studios. The lobby/spine was to be capped by a toroidal roof of stainless steel and shingled glass and would be a communal space for dancers as they stretch.

Amy was integrally involved in the construction documents and contributed detailing and design articulation to the exterior skin.



### **Jackson County Courthouse Exterior Renovation** Kansas City, Missouri

Constructed in 1934, the Jackson County Courthouse is an award-winning architectural landmark in Kansas City. BNIM served as project architect overseeing an approximate \$9 million makeover to the courthouse.

Amy documented and assisted in the detailing for the restoration of the entire exterior skin of the courthouse. She also provided design concepts for the interior signage upgrades.

### **Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood Airport Expansion Public Art Master Plan** Broward County, Florida

BNIM/Elements worked in collaboration with Noel Harding Studio and Spurlock Poirier Landscape Architects to develop an Art Master Plan for Broward County, South Florida. The plan will work hand in hand with the county's existing 2020 Vision Airport Expansion Program Master Plan to enhance the aesthetic attractiveness of the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport to its diverse range of visitors and community members. This plan also aims to promote Broward County's vision and challenge goals for future development.

Amy was responsible for coordination, graphics, and editing of the plan document in collaboration with the consultant team.

## 04.5 | BNIM Leadership



### An Emerging Leader

Amy has provided firm leadership in a variety of areas including design excellence, professional development and firm culture and organizational development. In 2004 she initiated and led the Women in Design conversation within the firm as a way for women to celebrate the contributions of women in the design fields and to mentor and learn from one another. As momentum grew within the firm and women experienced the benefits of learning from one another's success, she decided to expand their reach by sharing her idea with AIA Kansas City. The group quickly embraced the idea and has grown to include over 500 members. Additionally, her passion for good design and its ability to transform and restore communities has prompted her to create and lead a variety of informal design conversations over lunch and at Friday @5 happy hours.

Under Amy's leadership BNIM has achieved the designation of being an intern friendly firm in Kansas City and the Central States Region. She spearheaded the effort to implement all the required elements, including refining our mentorship program, helping create an integrated way to track IDP hours and the development of bi-weekly educational lunches to prepare young professionals for their ARE exams. She has also developed and given presentations on effective supervision and delegation best practices. At a broader level, she worked with a team to clarify and communicate the essential responsibilities of each project team role. Finally, she has also provided leadership to our firm's culture of being a family friendly firm by identifying best practices and helping develop policies and resources to support it.

“  
*Our firm like most has experienced difficult economic times over the past couple years. Amy Slattery has stepped forward and initiated new client development opportunities more aggressively than others of similar experience— doing so while being one of the busier people in the office. Her instincts are very good and willingness to put herself at the risk of the sometimes painful marketing/interview process is deeply appreciated by the firm and proving to be a role model for her peers.*”

- Steve McDowell FAIA | President  
BNIM

## 04.6 | University Volunteerism

“The Ethics, Leadership and Professional Practice course at the University of Kansas is designed to provide each student with an exposure to the architectural profession, including interaction with practicing professionals in the community. Amy Slattery was a young architect that I was looking to connect with the class because I knew that her intelligence about the profession, her experience and leadership in professional organizations, and her passion for architecture would be an extremely valuable example to the students.

The students were energized by Amy’s participation in the classroom. They were very responsive to her words and engaged with her in lively dialogue. This connection with the students exceeded my expectations. I have great respect for Amy and hope for more opportunities to have her participate in my classroom. I believe she represents the best in the young leadership of our profession. The future of our profession is in good hands.

”

- Dale R Duncan, AIA LEED AP  
Principal Helix  
Adjunct Faculty, University of Kansas  
School of Architecture and Urban Design

“She is a wonderful colleague who has always ‘given back’ to the students, the community and the profession and in my ten years of teaching, I have not met anyone who is more committed to engaging young architects early in the profession.”

- Marie-Alice L'Heureux, AIA, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
School of Architecture, Design, and Planning  
University of Kansas

“Amy has graciously taken time to participate in forum discussions with graduate students from Kansas State and Kansas University at The Kansas City Design Center. By sharing her experiences and current work, Amy provided these emerging students with a great catalyst for the varied direction their professional careers could follow.”

- laurenwendlandt, ra  
principal  
frameworkdesign  
Kansas City Design Center

“As my student, then an alumna, as a visiting critic and later as a colleague, Amy Slattery has always demonstrated good cheer, boundless energy, a passion for learning new things, a desire to do good for others and the discipline necessary to make this possible. Her energy, passion and discipline are infectious. When she has critiqued my students she has used a rare combination of professional expertise and enthusiasm that commands the students’ respect and inspires them at the same time. She is a perfect role model.”

- Steve Padgett, AIA, LEED AP, Assoc. Prof.  
The University of Kansas  
School of Architecture Design and Planning

## 04.7 | A Community of Women



“Not only is she a fabulous leader, but she’s an even better mentor who knows how to encourage women to take on new roles to further their abilities and knowledge. I would consider Amy one of my long term mentors in that I can always go to her for advice on work, professional organizations, and even my personal life.”

- Erin Pias, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP bd + c

“Amy encouraged me to get more involved in Women in Design Kansas City where I took on leadership roles of my own. Amy has always been one of those leaders who is looking to better the people around her, which is a trait that not all leaders have. Amy definitely stands out as a great young architect in my mind.”

- Dalyn Novak Assoc. AIA, LEED AP

“While still early in her career, I have personally seen the way in which Amy gives back to other professionals through her avid mentoring. She has dutifully filled this role for many young professionals within our office and community, myself included, to not only inspire and teach those who are newer to the profession, but also mentoring laterally, as well as up the leadership chain. Amy has taken the role of Young Architect and, as she does with everything she is involved in, has exceeded those expectations and illuminated the path towards success for all those around her.”

- Jennifer DeWitt, AIA, LEED AP  
BNIM

“Amy Slattery epitomizes the ideal of “Live+Work=Balance”. She juggles the different and varied aspects of her life with grace and ease and never seems to find it difficult to add another piece into the mix. Her involvement and contributions with two projects, the Bloch Building and the Kauffman Center, will define Kansas City architecture for generations to come is a lasting impact by themselves; but her involvement in other aspects of the profession has left lasting influences on individuals as well, myself included.”

- Theresa English, AIA, LEED AP

# 05 | Letters of Support

## **Moshe Safdie, FAIA**

Safdie Architects

Moshe Safdie is a leading architect, urban planner, educator, theorist, and author. Embracing a comprehensive and humane design philosophy, Safdie has been a visionary force in architecture and urban planning and design for over forty years. He has been the recipient of numerous awards, honorary degrees, and civil honors, including the Companion Order of Canada and the Gold Medal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada.

## **Casey Cassias, FAIA**

BNIM

As Director of Practice for BNIM, Casey Cassias has continued to challenge the status quo and progress the thought leadership within our firm and industry. Casey's leadership has been widely celebrated and has led to many awards, including a Green Building Leadership Award presented at USGBC's GreenBuild Conference and a Building Team of the Year Award from Building Design + Construction.

## **Carole Wedge, FAIA**

Shepley Bulfinch

Carole Wedge is President of Shepley Bulfinch, a national architecture and planning practice for leading education, healthcare, research, and civic clients. A member of the firm since 1986, she was elected its president in 2004. Carole was inducted as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects in 2008.

## **Jane Chu, President and CEO,**

Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Jane Chu began her position in 2006 as the first president and chief executive officer of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. Jane leads the development, strategy, programming and community initiatives for the facility, both in its pre-opening phase before 2011 and beyond.

## **Kent Spreckelmeyer, FAIA**

The University of Kansas

School of Architecture, Design & Planning

Kent Spreckelmeyer has been a professor at the University of Kansas since 1981. In addition to his work with the award-winning Studio 804, Kent has co-authored several books and worked with Frank Zilm & Associates, Inc. on numerous health care programming projects.

**Moshe Safdie and Associates Inc.**  
Architects and Planners

October 8, 2010

2011 Young Architects Award Selection Committee

To whom it may concern:

I have known Amy Slattery since 2004 when she came to Boston to work our office on behalf of BNIM for the Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts (KCPA) project now under construction in Kansas City, MO.

The project, currently in the last phases of construction, will house the Kansas City Symphony, the Kansas City Ballet and the Lyric Opera of Kansas City. Amy worked in our offices for 4 months, and during that time she became an integral part of the project team with important contributions through each step of the design process. She returned to Kansas City to continue to work on the construction documents for the project.

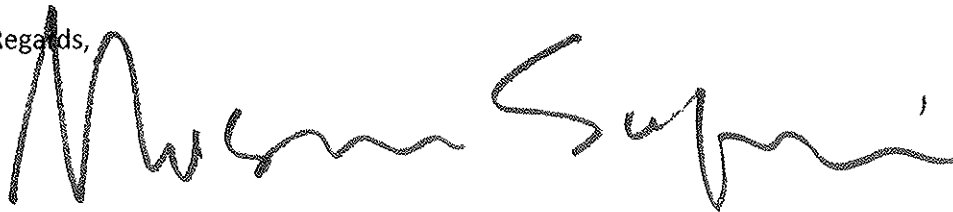
Her passion, enthusiasm and skill were exceedingly apparent, which led to far more trust and respect than is typically awarded to a professional of her age. There is, quite simply, never any doubt in her abilities.

Over the course of the past 6 years, I have seen Amy's professional abilities grow and flourish not only in her architectural work on KCPA, but in many ancillary realms as well. It is clear that she strives to be a complete architect — one that is committed to excellence in practice, professional development and helping others who wish to achieve the same.

Since 2004, Amy has worked alongside our office through every phase of the project. We trust her implicitly. Amy has been a highly committed and capable contributor to the team. She is currently a critical member of the team running the Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts and is my personal tie to each step of the construction process on site. She is acting on our behalf to identify and resolve construction issues as they arise so that they might be swiftly addressed and solved. She is an instinctual architect, which makes her a valuable partner.

I wholeheartedly recommend Amy for the 2011 AIA Young Architects Award. She has my full and unwavering support.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Moshe Safdie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Moshe" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Safdie".

Moshe Safdie

October 6, 2010

**2011 AIA Young Architects Award – Letter of Support**

**Nominee Ms. Amy Slattery, AIA**

Members of the Selection Committee,

Please accept this letter of support for Ms. Amy Slattery, AIA, for the **2011 AIA Young Architects Award**. Amy's involvement and commitment to the profession of architecture is remarkable. She is a leader in every sense of the word and at every level. She is passionate about architecture and the built environment and its impact on our community and our daily lives. She has been instrumental in shaping one of the defining projects in Kansas City – the \$400M Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts which will transform Kansas City's downtown environment – and it has been my privilege to work with her for the past six years. On top of this, Amy is involved throughout the community actively serving on Boards and organizations that make a difference.

The breadth of her accomplishments is most impressive and continues to grow: she has served on the American Institute of Architects/Kansas City Board; was named the 2008 Emerging Professional by AIA/KC; is actively involved with the local KC CREW organization (Commercial Real Estate Women) most recently serving on the board as Director of Programs; is active mentoring and developing young architects (locally, regionally and nationally); and is an advocate for Women in Design at both a local and national level. It is noteworthy that she was a founding member of their Board and instrumental in the formation of the organization – and has been an active leader, mentor and advocate for women within the profession. She is definitely someone to “watch.” She will continue to have more, and greater, leadership roles in the future because this is where she thrives.

Amy currently serves in a key Project Architect role for the new Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts. The Kauffman Center is a world-class performing arts center ([www.kauffmancenter.org](http://www.kauffmancenter.org)) housing both an 1800-seat proscenium theater and a 1600-seat concert hall. She is able to juggle multiple tasks and maintain a professional demeanor despite oftentimes unrealistic expectations. She is at her best when the conditions are the most demanding. Amy has gained the respect of the owner's representatives, the design architect (Moshe Safdie Associates), the entire team of consultants across the country and the contractors. She has been actively involved in the project for more than 6 years. When the project is complete in 2011, much of its success will be due to her efforts. She is currently directly assisting Safdie's staff by being their “eyes and ears” for the performance spaces.

Amy balances her professional and civic role with that of raising a young family. She is absolutely committed to work/life balance and views her work and civic efforts as an integral part of that role – yet always with a primary focus on doing what is best for her family.

Amy is a passionate and tireless individual, always exuding a positive attitude. She gives 100% to everything she does; she aims for excellence in every endeavor and gives extensively of herself for the good of others. She is a most worthy candidate for the **Young Architects Award**. I am honored and humbled to offer my support in her behalf. You will not find a more deserving candidate than Amy Slattery.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charles S. Cassias Jr., FAIA

September 24, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the nomination of Amy Slattery for the AIA 2011 Young Architects Award.

I have known Amy for several years through the Women in Design Network. As president of the only female-led firm in the American Institute of Architects' Large Firm Roundtable, I am keenly aware of the importance of supporting and promoting the next generation of women in design leadership.

Amy has demonstrated her leadership and initiative, most notably through her role in establishing Women in Design Kansas City (WiD-KC). She initiated WiD-KC in 2005 as a way to reach out to established professionals in the community and learn from their success; to advance the work women are doing; and to improve the way women's lives and work intersect. WiD-KC has stayed true to its original goals of mentorship, support, and advocacy for women in design. It was one of ten programs selected for the first annual AIA National Diversity Recognition Program in 2009 and the only one to be recognized for a second time in 2010. The success of WiD-KC has stimulated discussions across the country about the start-ups and logistics of operating similar organizations.

As a young architect Amy stretches herself to take on leadership roles both in her firm (BNIM) and in the AIA, and has volunteered to co-lead the 2011 Women in Leadership Summit in Kansas City.

Through her involvement with the AIA at local and regional levels, Amy has shown how her desire for continual improvement of architectural education, internship, and project delivery processes is having a significant impact on our profession.

I am pleased to recommend Amy for the AIA 2011 Young Architects award.

Sincerely,



Carole Wedge, FAIA, LEED AP  
President



Kauffman Center  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

+ Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts  
906 Grand, 11th Floor, Kansas City, MO 64106

Tel. 816 994 7200  
Fax. 816 994 7201

[kauffmancenter.org](http://kauffmancenter.org)

September 24, 2011

2011 Young Architects Award Jury  
The American Institute of Architects  
1735 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Jury:

I am pleased to recommend Ms. Amy Slattery as a candidate for the AIA 2011 Young Architects Award. In addition to her active participation in the AIA KC, Kansas City CREW chapter and ongoing career development as an architect with Berkebile Nelson Immenschuh McDowell, Amy is a project architect for the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, assigned as a local liaison for our designers Moshe Safdie and Associates, located in Boston.

Amy has been part of the design team for the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts before our groundbreaking, and nearly since the inception of the design process. She integrates her intelligence and technical knowledge of this \$413 million project with her communication skills, to ensure that the complex construction process is accurately aligned with the design. Additionally, we have relied on Amy for presentations about the Kauffman Center to other architects, as well as prospective donors for the project.

As we round the corner to open the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in September 2011, I express my appreciation to Amy for her part in turning the design into a reality, and wholeheartedly endorse Amy as a candidate for the AIA 2011 Young Architects Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Chu".

Jane Chu

October 4, 2010

TO: 2011 Young Architects Award Selection Committee

FROM: Kent Spreckelmeyer, D.Arch., FAIA  
Professor



RE: Recommendation for Ms. Amy Slattery, AIA, LEED AP

It gives me great pleasure to support the nomination of Ms. Amy Slattery for a 2011 Young Architect Award. I have known Amy since she was an undergraduate student in the Architecture Program at the University of Kansas, and I have followed her architectural career with interest and pride since her graduation in 2001. During her five years at KU I had the opportunity to have her in a number of studios and lecture courses, and I remember the many times as a student she played a leadership role in the life of the School. The most striking and wonderful thing that I remember about Amy is the unbounded enthusiasm and energy she brings to her work. I am not exaggerating when I say that she is always the first to pick up the relevant point, to seize an opportunity to make a situation better, to find the positive in any problem. I have had Amy back on a regular basis to my classes at KU since she graduated for guest lectures and design reviews. Invariably, she is the one the students will single out as the person who *must* be invited back. She's always insightful, precise, positive and funny in what she has to pass on to students of architecture.

The most positive attribute that Amy possesses is her love of architecture. It just comes through in everything she says and does. It's one thing to be an excellent designer and manager, but it's something special for that excellence to shine through a personality that is so engaging and genuine. I know her real pride for the past several years has been the management role she has played as the liaison architect for Moshe Safdie Associates in the Kauffman Performing Arts Center. She has used that experience on numerous occasions in her lectures and site visits for KU students, and she always introduces the project as "my baby." Architecture for her is an act of the heart. I can think of no one more deserving of this award. I recommend Amy for this award without reservation and with the knowledge she will represent the AIA with distinction. Please contact me at [kents@ku.edu](mailto:kents@ku.edu) if you require further comment on her academic or professional qualifications.